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# **El Salvador**

Washington, D. C.

December 14, 1901



Class F1483

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# SALVADOR.

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IN THE Spanish tongue, Salvador means literally "Saviour." What potentialities this suggests! Little wonder is there why Columbus, after a long and weary voyage, gave the name to his first discovery in the New World.

But the little island of St. Salvador, in the Bahamas, had its restrictions and limitations. Within a few years of 1492 it was forgotten, excepting by geographers and historians. In fact, to-day when the name "Salvador" is heard, the world thinks entirely of another grand division of territory, the Republic of Salvador.

## HISTORICAL.

In the early summer of the year 1524, an army led by Pedro de Alvarado, swept southward from the City of Mex-

ico and conquered what are now known as the Republics of Guatemala and Salvador. The latter country became a province of the vice-regal kingdom of Guatemala, and remained under Spanish tutelage for nearly three centuries.

The year of 1811 witnessed the beginning of an agitation for independence on the part of the province of Salvador. However, not until the inhabitants of Mexico, a decade later, had successfully terminated their war for freedom from Spain, did this effort crystallize. And then, in the autumn of 1821, the territory comprised in the Kingdom of Guatemala was proclaimed to be free and independent, this declaration, of course, embracing the province of Salvador.

Three years later, as a result of a constitutional convention, there was declared the foundation of a federal republic called "The Central American Confederation," composed of Guatemala, Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Costa Rica. This form of government proving impracticable, the federation was dissolved in 1839.



From that date onwards Salvador has been a sovereign and independent republic. Its constitution was adopted in 1864, and amended on August 13, 1886, in the form in which it is now in force.

#### GEOGRAPHICAL.

The Republic of Salvador is situated between  $13^{\circ} 12'$  and  $14^{\circ} 28'$  north latitude, and  $87^{\circ} 37'$  and  $90^{\circ} 6'$  longitude, west of the meridian of Greenwich. In form it is rectangular. Seventy-nine miles is the average mean breadth, while the whole State is one hundred and ninety miles long, and contains 7,255 square miles, or is slightly smaller than New Jersey.

One hundred and thirty-nine miles is the extreme length of the Pacific coast line; Salvador possesses none on the Atlantic.

The Republic may be said to lie in the northwestern part of Central America. It is bounded on the west by the Pacific, the States of Guatemala and Honduras; on the north by Honduras; on the east by the Pacific and Honduras, while the Pacific is on the south.

The country presents a varied aspect, but is chiefly mountainous. In the north and northwest rises the principal chain of the Sierra Madre. This sends spurs to the southward, towards the center of the Republic, and from these mountains the land descends in undulations.

At a distance of a dozen miles from the coast line, and parallel to it, lies a second range of the Cordilleras.

Intersecting both of these chains are streams, which form fertile valleys.

At a point in the northern mountain chain, beginning with the peaks of Sociedad, Ilohasco, Dulce Nombre de Maria, and Palma, is the first line of water-parting. The river Lempa breaks this range in three places; first, where it receives the waters of the Torola; again at the entrance into it of the river Sumpul, and lastly between the mountains near Citalá. All the streams produced by these mountains go to form the Lempa, which flows into the Pacific.

The other dividing line of waters is formed by the southern Cordilleras, which extend from east to west, just south of the central part of the State of Salvador, and almost parallel with the coast line. This chain consists of Mounts Conchagua, Jucuapa and San Vicente, and those beginning to the east of the River Giboa, Mt. St. Ana, surrounding the city of Santa Ana, and others terminating in the peaks which shut in Lake Guija to the south. Those rivers to the north of this range flow northward into the Lempa; the streams to the south descend to the ocean.

Of the rivers, the Lempa is the largest and most important. Rising in Guatemala it enters Salvador in the northwestern part, near the town of Citalá. Following a devious course, it flows three hundred and seven miles into the Pacific. The stream varies in width from fifty yards at Citalá, to two hundred yards where it unites with the sea. The average depth is seven yards and the mean velocity of the current is one and three-fourth leagues per hour. During its course within the Republic

it receives the larger part of the waters of the remaining rivers. In the latter half of its course it is fed by the large streams of Guarajanbola, the Torola and Acaguapa. The Lempa is navigable for the larger draught steamers for half its course across the country.

Other important streams are the La Paz, on the northern and western frontier; the Goascorán, on the eastern boundary; the Rio Grande, to the east of the Lempa; and the Jiboa in the central part. The remaining smaller rivers and streams are tributary to these main water-courses.

Lakes abound, of which the most notable are Guija, on the western boundary, and Lake Ilopango, in the central part.

#### SOIL AND CLIMATE.

In a general way, the slopes of the mountains, the tablelands and valleys, are overlaid with both diluvial and alluvial soil, in part formed by the detritus of minerals and decomposed wood and vegetable matter. As a result, the land is of virgin fertility.

The diluvial soil is found adjacent to the two principal mountain ranges, while the alluvial is dispersed over all the Republic, the greatest continuous extent occurring in the State of Gotera. The land which lies between the upper and lower mountain chains, show the natural result of time, together with the descending precipitation of the waters from the mountains. It is, in fact, difficult to trace the line of demarcation between the waters flowing in opposite directions. The Upper Cordilleras does not form a continuous range, but appears in groups. Between the two chains are naturally plane regions, and there are a great variety of level surfaces in the country.

The plains are, first, that passing the city of San Miguel, in the eastern part and extending north; those paralleling the Pacific, which are slightly inclined and descend from the mountains. There are four smaller plains: Apopa, enclosed by mountains in the state of San Salvador; and Apastepeque, in San Vicente; the remaining two being unimportant.

Travelers passing across Salvador quickly learn of the existing climatic conditions, and it is then a simple matter for them to fall into line. Salvadoreans are exceptionally healthy, the mortuary record being about 1 per cent. per annum.

Salvador has but two seasons, the wet, corresponding to our winter, and the dry or summer season. Beginning in May, the rainy season continues until October. Occasionally the storms are severe in July and August, although there are two short intervals of sun and clear skies. These are called, respectively, the short summer of St. John and the Canicula (dog days). How every one rejoices, too, at their coming!

There are no endemic diseases in Salvador, even consumption and catarrh being unknown.

The lowlands near the coast are generally hot, and there the rainy season is usually shorter than elsewhere in the Republic.

But the people, the cities, in fact the interests of the country all lie in what is termed the temperate zone. This

embraces the table lands, valleys, and mountain slopes of the interior, and a stranger passing from the coast finds them cool, healthful and delightful.

#### POPULATION.

The latest census shows a population of 1,106,848 people, of which 593,893 are males and 512,955 females.

Salvador is one of the most densely populated countries in the world, for there are 153.19 inhabitants to the square mile. Forty per cent. of the people are of European descent; fifty per cent. belong to the mixed race, and the remaining ten per cent. are Indians of Mexican origin. Of the mixed race, it is to be said that they are well-organized, perfectly assimilated to refined civilization and possess unusual moral and intellectual qualities. The Indians are respectful and industrious, docile and easily governed.

Salvador is compact and thickly populated, so that it has not been difficult for the government to follow out its disposition to extend a paternal care over the intellectual and material de-

velopment of the people. This feature will be recognized as unique among the republics of the world.

As a consequence, the inhabitants have attained a degree of culture which compares with that to be found in cities of the United States.

Spanish is the national language. The Indians, who are chiefly farmers and laborers, in a few cases retain the primitive Nahuatl, a derivation of the Mexican Nahuatl. A few of the tribes speak the Lenca or Chutal.

#### CONSTITUTION.

The constitution of the Republic is a dignified and conservative document, and yet by its very liberality is exceptionally strong. The characteristic feature of the instrument is its crispness and exactness.

Under "Title I," which in four articles treats of "The Nation and The Form of its Government," these excerpts are culled: Article 1. "The Salvadorean nation is sovereign and independent, and can never be the patrimony of any family or person. \* \* \*



The sovereignty is limited to what is honest, just and useful to society. It is vested in the whole body of the Salvadorean people. \* \* \* All public power emanates from the people. The functionaries of the state are delegates of the people, and have no more powers than expressly given them by laws." Article 4 states, "that the government is republican, democratic, representative and alternative, vested in three different powers, each independent of one another, the Legislative, Executive and Judicial."

Title II is devoted to "Rights and Guarantees," and contains forty articles. No hereditary offices or privileges are recognized. All property is transferable in the manner and form prescribed by law. No taxes shall be levied unless by virtue of law, and for the public service. All state functionaries and officials are immediately responsible for the acts severally performed by them and the law provides for the enforcement of this responsibility. Every man in the country is free. Slavery is not permitted. Absolute religious free-

dom is to be had. Salvador is a sacred asylum for foreigners. The people may meet for any lawful purpose. No person can be compelled to perform work without his consent and full compensation therefor. No confiscation of property is permitted. No person can be deprived of life, liberty or property, without due process of law. The domicile is sacred and inviolable. All men are equal before the law. Correspondence by letter or telegraph is inviolable. No censorship permitted. Teaching is free. Primary instruction is compulsory. All industries are free.

Titles III, IV and V, respectively discuss "Salvadoreans," "Aliens," and "Citizenship."

In Title VI is treated the Legislative Power. This is exercised by a National Assembly of Deputies, composed of three members elected from each of the fourteen States, or Departments, 42 members all told. The legislative powers are carefully defined in twenty-five articles.

The Executive Power, of which Title VII speaks, is vested in a President,

who is elected for four years by a majority vote of the people, and who may not be re-elected for the following term. In like manner the Vice-President is elected. The President appoints four Cabinet Ministers who form the Council. Nineteen articles are devoted to the executive powers.

Under Title VIII are found sixteen articles, touching on the Judicial Power, which is exercised by a Supreme Court of Justice, and three lesser courts, corresponding to the United States and State Courts.

Title IX deals with "Local Government." Each State or Department is provided with a Governor, who is in charge, also, of the municipalities under his jurisdiction. The Governor is assisted by mayors and subordinate officials, according to population.

The remaining sections, comprising Titles X, XI, XII, XIII and XIV, respectively treat of Elections, The National Treasury, The Army and Navy, The Responsibility of Public Officials, and Amendments to the Constitution. Altogether there are 152 ar-

tibles. The constitution was modelled, in a measure, after that of the United States.

On September 27, 1886, a month after the adoption of the Constitution, a series of laws were passed relating to aliens. These carefully define and elaborate the privileges and duties of all foreigners residing within the Republic.

#### POLITICAL DIVISIONS.

Salvador has fourteen States, or Departments, as they are termed. In the west and northwest are the Departments of Ahuachapán, Santa Ana, Chalatenango, Sonsonate and La Libertad. All excepting the latter State have capital cities of the same name as the Department. Nueva San Salvador is the seat of government for La Libertad. The city of La Libertad is a leading port of the Republic, on the coast of the State of the same name. It lies on an open roadstead. The harbor is susceptible of additional dredging and improving, and when this is done La Libertad will become a competitor of La Union, which has the

distinction of possessing the best Pacific port of any Central American country.

Four States occupy the northern and eastern portion of the Republic, namely, Cabañas, capital city Sensuntepeque; San Miguel, with capital of the same name; Morazan, government town San Francisco; and La Union, whose capital is La Union. This city is the entrance of a large quantity of the commerce coming to Salvador. It possesses a safe and land-locked harbor, entered from the beautiful Gulf of Fonseca, by a bay. La Union Bay, for so it is called, has an anchorage of large extent, capable of accommodating an immense traffic.

The Pacific Coast States are, in addition to those already named, La Paz, whose capital is Zacatecoluca; Usulután, government city similarly named; and San Vicente, capital San Vicente. The Department of Sonsonate, previously named, possesses a coast line, and the city of Acajutla is rapidly becoming an important shipping point.

The State of San Salvador, in the central part of the Republic, does not

touch the Pacific. In this Department is located the national capital, San Salvador.

The fourteen States or Departments named contain thirty-one counties, twenty-eight cities and sixty-four towns. They also have one hundred and sixty-one villages and two hundred and fifty-three settlements.

Three cities, respectively, San Salvador the capital, Santa Ana, and San Miguel, contain nearly one-ninth of the total population between them, or approximately 100,000 people. Six cities, La Libertad, Sonsonate, Ahuachapán, Cojutepeque, San Vicente and Sensuntepeque, include 70,000 inhabitants altogether, or an average of 11,500 each. The remaining capitals, La Unión, San Francisco, Usulután, Zacatecoluca and Chalatenango, have approximately 30,000 inhabitants, or about 5,000 apiece.

#### SAN SALVADOR.

In the United States, Washington is regarded as a typical expression of the results of the nation's progress, mor-

ally, intellectually, spiritually, materially and artistically.

With especial significance is this true of San Salvador, the capital of Salvador. A picture of it is a representation of the entire Republic, in miniature.

San Salvador is located on the River Acelhuate, west of the central part of the Republic, in the beautiful Valley of Las Hamacas, at an altitude of 2,115 feet above the sea. High mountains tower on all sides of this peaceful plain, which is nearly eight miles square.

Perhaps the first feature noticed by the tourist is the streets, which are well-paved and, at night, brilliantly lighted. They are as straight as those of Washington. Two large public parks compare favorably with Central or Fairmount, and of course are far richer than the latter in brilliant tropical foliage. Then there are several plazas or squares; and these, as well as the parks, are maintained scrupulously free from refuse, paper and dirt. The trees and shrubbery are trimmed as precisely as the boxwood at Mt. Vernon; the walks and drives

are faultlessly clean. In Morazan Park is an artistic monument of marble and bronze, dedicated to General Morazan, the last President of United Central America. Throughout these parks and plazas are scattered comfortable pavilions, and here one may rest quietly, or watch the children at play.

Salvador is a very old city. Don Jorge, brother of Alvarado the conqueror, founded it April 4, 1528, but the site was placed a trifle north of the present location. It was removed to the ground it now occupies in 1539 and four years afterwards was incorporated as a city. In 1840 Salvador was designated the capital of the Republic and has since retained that distinction.

The government offices, including the courts and national palace, are grouped near together in the center of the city. These buildings follow the usual lines of Central and South American architecture, being two stories in height and rectangular in form.

A traveler quickly learns to estimate the condition of progress in the country



he visits, by the character of the educational and allied institutions which it contains. So, of the educational and scientific institutions in San Salvador, as representative of all others in the Republic, much is to be said. In the first place, eighty per cent. of the inhabitants of the country read and write. Particularly is it true that education is being greatly extended among the younger generation. A traveler rarely encounters in Salvador, a child over twelve years who does not read and write. Public instruction is non-clerical, free and obligatory. There are 590 elementary schools for both sexes in the Republic, the average daily attendance being 31,500. Rudimentary instruction is also given in the National Institute, at the capital, which institution is provided by the government with all necessaries. Too much stress can not be placed upon the great attention given to public instruction.

As an earnest of the culture of the people, the tourist finds a high standard attained by the Salvadorean press,

which is the most highly cultivated and interesting to be found throughout Central America.

The magnificent building of the National University especially delights the eye of all college men from the United States. It occupies a square adjoining the government buildings, is sixty feet high, one hundred and ninety long, by ninety-five deep.

There are two stories, a court opening from the interior. Over the main entrance, on the second story, is a balcony which is adorned by four Doric columns. Within the University are comfortable, and well-lighted and furnished lecture-rooms. The appointments are complete. In the physical laboratory are the most approved apparatus and instruments; the museum of natural history is replete with rare specimens, many of which the curator of one of our universities would gladly possess. The library is especially rich in works on astronomy, mathematics, physical and natural science, medicine, surgery and pharmacy, jurisprudence, engineering, architecture, and art.

Near the University building is the normal school for men, the polytechnic institute, and the ladies' normal school. Recently the government established in the capital-city a national college for the higher education of women.

As illustrating the manner in which the government promotes the educational interests of the country, it is interesting to read the following excerpt from the message of the President to the Congress, in February, 1893 :

“ Profoundly convinced of the beneficial influences which education and instruction exercises on all social classes, I have continued during the past year to extend to this important branch, the most energetic protection.

“ The large number of educational establishments sustained in greater part by the State, has rendered necessary the investment of large sums in the salaries of professors, and in the purchase of supplies and text-books. Knowing the difficulties under which authors labor in a young country like ours, I have ordered printed, at public expense, various important works pro-

duced by some of the best talent of the country. Some of them unite intrinsic merit with fitness for use as textbooks in our educational establishments."

Aside from the primary education already alluded to, there is the secondary, and the professional. The former comprises preparatory studies for a university course, land surveying, education for teachers, and for commercial life.

The professional education is regulated by the law of 1886, and the curriculum necessary for graduation is from three to seven years.

Last year the sum appropriated by the government for public instruction amounted to \$388,552.00.

Not far from the National University is the Salvadorean Lyceum, a private institution; and adjoining it is the Santa Teresa College for girls, also a theological seminary.

The Academy for Science and Belles-Lettres corresponds to our Smithsonian Institution, and is located within a stone's-throw of the University.

The charitable and benevolent institutions, which are also under government support, are regulated and controlled by the Minister of Education, Public Works, and Benevolence. Of all the government hospitals placed throughout the Republic, that of the capital city is the most interesting. In appearance it resembles the National University. It is thoroughly organized and equipped, has a distinguished medical staff and is a great honor to the country. Recently there has been completed in San Salvador, the Rosales Hospital, Don José Rosales having bequeathed \$3,500,000 to the institution. This is one of the most magnificently constructed and equipped hospitals in the world. It is interesting to observe that much of the material used in the building itself was imported from Europe, the iron and castings having been manufactured in Belgium.

San Salvador has a good asylum, a school for orphans, and a home for the aged poor, all maintained by the government. Last year the Republic appropriated for the support of the charit-

able and benevolent institutions the sum of \$215,000.

Religion is absolutely free; civil marriage legal; and education non-clerical.

Numerous drives into the suburbs of the city, if availed of by the tourist, tend to quicken his appreciation of the quiet beauty of the residences, the trees, shrubbery and gardens. If time permits the drive should be extended to the splendid establishment on the southern edge of the city, which has natural baths of various degrees of temperature, and of great medicinal properties.

San Salvador's policemen are intelligent, and very polite and attentive in giving directions to strangers.

It is worth while to note that the hotels, cafes and restaurants compare favorably with those in the United States and Europe. The bills of fare give a feeling of pleasure to a tired traveler; although after he visits the large, well-appointed market, it is not difficult to understand why the hotels cater so successfully to the hungry appetite.

Salvadoreans are generously hospitable to strangers, and with the clubs and national theatre, a fortnight's stay at the capital ends all too quickly.

San Salvador does an extensive business. In addition to nine banks are several mercantile agencies, manufactories of cigars, candles, soap, ice, brick, flour, sugar and matches. There are also yarn factories, the weaving being done principally on hand looms. The product is scarfs of silk and flax, cotton cloth and shawls.

A tourist obtains an appreciation of the amount of business done in San Salvador by observing the number of business houses in that city. These are: eleven booksellers and stationers, seven boot and shoe dealers, thirteen pharmacists, twenty-three grocers, six hardware and cutlery shops, eleven hatters, three lithographers, four photographers, eighteen planters, nine printing offices, twenty-eight jewelers and silversmiths, seventeen merchants, and ninety-three importers and exporters. Among them one observes the names of many Americans.

Twelve newspapers and periodicals are published in San Salvador, and throughout the Republic are of course many others.

The indications of progress and culture given of the inhabitants of the capital suggest what may be found in all other cities of the Republic. Wherever the traveler journeys, he will find those conditions which result from peace and prosperity, and intellectual, moral and spiritual development.

Telegraph and telephone lines connect San Salvador, as well as all other cities and towns, with the coast and with one another. At La Libertad, these lines make connection with the submarine telegraph cable, which reaches out to all the cities of the world.

A modern railway extends from San Salvador to Acajutla, the seaport. While the rails were imported from England, it is pleasant for the traveler to observe that the locomotives and rolling stock were manufactured in the United States. The receipts last year were \$212,560.00; the expenditures \$152,874.00, leaving a net profit of



\$59,686.00. A branch thirty-nine miles long leaves the main line at Ateos and extends to Santa Ana.

Between Sonsonate and Izalco a line is also in operation.

An important road is that extending from La Union to San Miguel. Shortly this will be extended to San Salvador, and it is proposed to connect the line with the Guatemalan Railroad, thus affording an Atlantic outlet.

A road is in course of construction from the port La Libertad to San Salvador. When completed, it will give the capital city three outlets.

Four steamship lines ply regularly between the ports of Salvador and those of North, Central and South America.

Salvador's post-office system is perfectly organized and equipped. Letters are dispatched as readily as anywhere in the United States, and money easily and safely transmitted by means of the postal order system, which is in force with the United States and Europe.

The silver standard is in force, the monetary unit being the peso or dollar, which is equivalent, also, to the French five franc piece. All internal commerce and business transactions are carried on in silver and bank notes, there being no government notes. The latter point is significant, taken in connection with the prosperous condition of the country. By means of the customs receipts and tax on alcoholic liquors manufactured within the country, the expenses of the government are paid.

August 28, 1892, the National Mint of Salvador was formally dedicated and opened. This mint possesses some of the finest machinery in the world. It is a great boon to the finance and commerce of the country.

The banks of Salvador are the Occidental, with a capital of \$1,000,000.00; the Salvadoreno, with a capital of \$1,000,000.00; the private bank of Messrs. Blanco & Trigueros, capital \$1,500,000.00; the London Bank, which has a branch in San Salvador. These

banks pay large dividends and have branches and correspondents in all the cities and towns of the Republic.

The consolidated internal debt and government bonds amounted to \$10,000,000.00 three years since. After the present administration took hold of affairs the debt was curtailed and to-day equals but \$7,588,978.74, which is called the bonified debt.

One of the facts of highest significance is that Salvador has no foreign debt of any character. In years gone by many foreign obligations were contracted and always met promptly. Two years ago, shortly after General Regalado was elected to the Presidency, 800,000 pounds sterling was paid in cash, and the balance of the foreign debt was settled in bonds. The latter are now being redeemed in cash.

#### INDUSTRIES.

The people are engaged principally in agriculture and commerce, as the great extent of mineral land has hardly begun to be developed. The Indians carry on many small industries and

manufacture baskets, hats and other articles which are largely consumed within the country. Agriculture has always been the principal industry of the country, and each succeeding year it attains greater development, with the introduction of Yankee machinery, modern methods, and fertilizers. The important products are coffee, indigo, balsam, sugar, tobacco, India rubber, rice, cocoa, cotton, cereals and fruits.

The coffee plant was introduced from Havana in 1852, and the first plantations established were in 1876, in the State of La Paz. To-day the berry is produced in all parts of the country, wherever the lands rise over 1,500 feet above the sea. It is probably the most important product of the country and for years has formed more than one-half of the total amount of exports. It is the only article of export on which a tax is levied. The largest and most productive plantations are in the States of Santa Ana, Sonsonate, Ahuachapán, La Libertad and San Salvador. Recently, many thousands of trees have been planted

in the departments of Cuscatlán and Usulután. It is customary in starting a coffee plantation to purchase two-year-old trees from the nurseries at an average price of \$15.00 per 1,000. The coffee is quite tender and should receive careful nurture and protection from the sun, from the time of planting until it has attained the age of five years. For this purpose a quick-growing tree is planted between the coffee rows, a tree like the banana or plantain. The first crop is gathered after the tree is three years old, but the maximum bearing is not attained until the seventh year. The Salvadorean coffee has a rare flavor and is in high demand among exporters. The cost of production is about five cents per pound, while the retail price ranges from ten to twenty-five cents per pound. 500,000 bags is the average annual crop to-day, representing a value of ten million dollars. At the Salvadorean exhibit at the Pan-American Exposition were displayed twelve samples of coffee from the various States of the Republic.

Next in importance after coffee is sugar cane, which is cultivated in all the Departments of Salvador. The best sugar cane is the dark-colored "Batavia." With the introduction of more American capital and newer machinery, the sugar industry would take nearly equal rank with coffee. The production of sugar last year consisted of 110,000 barrels of molasses, and 150,000 bags of sugar, the exportation being but 15,818 pounds. Nearly all the sugar product is consumed at home. The exhibits of sugar cane at the Pan-American Exposition, by Salvador, were very attractive.

Cocoa is easily produced in Salvador, although the present cultivation is quite limited.

Indigo samples displayed at the Buffalo Exposition, represented the 7,000 sacks produced last year, which sold for \$1,500,000.00. The plant grows on the high, rocky soils of Chalatenango, Cabañas, and Morazan, and in Santa Ana, San Vicente and San Miguel. The methods followed in the cultivation of this plant in Salvador

differ from the care given the indigo plantations in the East Indies. In Salvador the underbrush and growth is cut and burned, and then the seed is sown, generally in May. By September it is ready for harvest, and then the flowering buds are about ready to open. At this point it is richest in indigo-yielding matter. The plant is cut close to the ground, tied in small bundles and taken to the factory, where it is allowed to ferment in water, under pressure. After going through a process, the thick liquid is dried and pressed into cakes for the market.

A great variety of tobacco samples were shown in the exhibit at Buffalo. The export trade is principally to adjoining Republics, and amounted last year to 399,965 pounds of leaf and manufactured tobacco. Improved methods of drying and preparation of the leaves are being introduced, and American planters going into Salvador have brought with them modern methods of handling the product.

Nearly the entire corn crop is consumed within the Republic, but 72,666

pounds being exported last year and this chiefly to neighboring countries. Corn is the daily bread of Salvadoreans, and there are many varieties of the product, of which four were to be seen at the Pan-American Exposition.

The other staple products are rice, beans, vegetables and fruits. The latter industry has received but little attention. The people are awaiting the completion of the Isthmian canal, when they anticipate doing a large export business with the United States in the fruit line. The fruits are rich and luscious, and happily produced with little cultivation and care.

Recently the government has undertaken to stimulate the growth of improved breeds of cattle. The mountain slopes and foot-hills are rich in pasture, and little attention is required to maintain stock. The government offers prizes for the best breeds of cattle, horses and sheep introduced into the Republic.

Cotton is very easily grown, and the building of cotton plants for the manufacture of goods would be among the best paying investments in the country.



Rubber, balsam and vanilla are exported, as yet on a small scale. Here is one field capable of great industrial expansion. The forestry products are valuable, including mahogany, cedar, ebony and other tropical woods. Along the coast are large areas of dyewood, which is valuable for commerce. Many saw mills are to be seen from the railway, as there are quantities of timber available for building purposes, mining, etc.

From the fibre of the pita, is manufactured thread, twine, cordage and hammocks, and among the prettiest exhibits at Buffalo were those made from this plant.

Salvador received a total of thirty medals at the Pan-American award, among which were 5 gold medals, 7 silver, 3 bronze medals, and 15 honorable mentions. The gold medals were for collective agricultural exhibit, coffee display, manufactures. Tobacco, chocolate, India rubber, indigo, balsams, minerals, soaps, leathers, all received medals and honorable mention. Particularly interesting were the collection

of sea shells, school songs, educational and musical works, and collections of antiquities, all of which were remembered in the awards. One unique exhibit was that of castor oil seeds, which took a gold medal. It is not difficult to understand, now, why the little boys and girls of Salvador are so healthy and strong!

During the twelve months ending June 30, 1901, the exports from New York City to Salvador were as follows:

Blankets . . . . .	\$167,525 00
Machinery . . . . .	55,222 00
Drugs . . . . .	41,466 00
Wire . . . . .	23,297 00
Oil . . . . .	9,061 00
Hardware . . . . .	9,422 00
Electrical supplies . . . .	5,077 00
Corn starch . . . . .	4,513 00
Hides . . . . .	4,549 00
Petroleum . . . . .	882 00
Miscellaneous . . . . .	48,683 00
Total . . . . .	<u>\$369,697 00</u>

#### MINES AND MINERALS.

The mineral veins of Salvador are found chiefly in the northern Cordilleras, which extends east and west and reaches into Honduras and Nicaragua.

The veins generally are parallel with the direction of the range, although often much interrupted. In the eastern part of the Republic are more generally found deposits of gold, silver, copper and lead; iron in the western; and coal at various points along the River Lempa.

The various minerals produced are building stone, gypsum, silver, lead, tin, rock crystal, iron, limestone, quick-silver, antimony, gold, coal, copper.

In the Republic, there are three principal mining districts: San Miguel, Cabañas, and Metapán.

The best ores of the San Miguel district belong to the Department of San Miguel, La Union and Morazan. This region is very rich in precious metals, especially in sulphide and chloride of silver ores. The leading gold mines are the San Bartolo, Copeillos, and the Eva group.

The District of Cabañas is considered richer than the preceding one. In the county of San Isidro are the gold veins of San Enrique, La Cola del Toro, El Compañero, El Cerro de Avila

and La Pepita. Copper and magnesium are produced in Charlatenango.

In the District of Metapán are produced chiefly iron, and some zinc, graphite, lead, copper, silver and gold.

The best seams of coal are those known as Ilobasco and El Lempa, and is called the brown coal.

The mining laws of Salvador are very liberal.

#### PROSPERITY OF THE COUNTRY.

The President of Salvador, in his message to the last Congress, delivered February 20, 1901, submitted statistics relating to the country's progress, which afford much food for reflection. Like the messages of American presidents, this one deals largely with the economic condition of the country. President Regalado refers to the completion of the Occidental Railway, which was open to traffic early in the year, and states that the debt contracted by the government for the building of this road has been completely liquidated.

He dwells at length on the condition of the higher institutions for learning.

The National University has been enlarged, he adds, by the addition of a dental department, a school of commerce and finance.

The receipts of the government during the year 1900 were \$6,337,729.06, as follows: Imports, \$3,473,162.03; exports, \$550,410.86; liquor tax, \$1,827,961.76; other sources of income, \$486,194.41. The increase over 1899 was \$1,857,274.45, as follows: In custom duties, \$1,573,678.59; tax on liquors, \$233,325.74; miscellaneous, \$50,270.12.

Adding to the \$6,337,729.06, the receipts from loans, \$269,098.82, and the balance on hand from the previous year, \$177,923.43, the available fund in 1900 is \$6,784,751.31.

The disbursements amounted during the year to \$6,751,027, leaving a balance of \$33,732.44.

The exports from the ports of the Republic during 1900 consisted of 365,499 packages, valued at \$9,142,690.00. The imports for the same year were \$6,000,570.00. Excess of exports over \$3,000,000.00.

January 1, 1901, the report of the Board of Directors of the Banco Salvadoreño of San Salvador showed an authorized capital of \$6,000,000.00. Of this amount, \$4,200,000.00 is subscribed and \$2,500,000.00 paid in. The reserve fund is \$500,000.00. The net profits for the half year ending Dec. 31, 1900, were \$44,230.36, of which \$42,000.00 was applied to the payment of dividends, and \$2,230.00 placed in the reserve fund.

These figures reveal a satisfactory condition of commerce and finance, which when analyzed indicate the extent of the general prosperity of the Republic.

The press of the country is full of references to the excellent condition of the country, the *Demócrata* of Santa Ana, in a recent issue, bestowing generous praise on the faithful administration now in office for the good work accomplished by it.

Salvador is a prosperous country and strives to maintain the most friendly international and commercial intercourse with all nations, particularly with those nearest to it.

To develop trade and these industrial facilities, and to improve agricultural methods and processes in use, has been and is the purpose of the present administration, headed by General Regalado, the President of the Republic. He is ably assisted in these disinterested efforts by the members of his Cabinet Council.

The problem of furthering progress and enhancing prosperity in Salvador resolves itself into two principal factors, viz: immigration and foreign capital. To attract these, liberal laws are in force; abundant guarantees are extended to Americans to invest capital in the country. For such, the rewards are remunerative and exceptional.

The assured completion of an Isthmian canal in the near future means more to Salvador, perhaps, than to any other Central American state. Salvadoreans look forward to the time when their country and the United States will interchange a commerce vastly greater than it is to-day.















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